

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name: W. J. Dronenburg House
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 13/10/123. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 7
Clarksburg H.D. A-4
4. Address: 23401 Frederick Road, Clarksburg
5. Classification Summary
- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Category | <u>building</u> | Previous Survey Recording | <u>M-NCPPC</u> |
| Ownership | <u>private</u> | Title and Date: | <u>1976 Inventory of</u> |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u> | | <u>Historical Sites</u> |
| Status | <u>occupied</u> | | |
| Accessible | <u>yes:restricted</u> | Federal | <u>State</u> <u>x</u> <u>County</u> <u>x</u> <u>Local</u> |
| Present use | <u>commercial, private</u> | residence | |
6. Date: Late 1860's
7. Original Owner: William J. Dronenburg
8. Apparent Condition
- a. good b. altered c. original site
9. Description: This three bay by three bay, two-and-a-half story house faces west. The original house was three bay by one bay, two-and-a-half story, brick laid in Flemish bond with fieldstone foundation, facing west. The front (west) facade has a panelled transom. A one-over-one, double-hung window flanks the door on either side. The trim is plain. The cellar beneath has a dirt floor and huge hewn beams to support the brick house. An earlier massive stone chimney can be seen although it is partially covered with block. A three bay by four bay section is behind the brick part; it is clapboard on fieldstone foundation with casement windows. A gable roof covers both sections with corrugated metal. There is one interior brick chimney, and louvered shutters at the upper level. Windows are double-hung; some of the original glass remains. A cement block and frame one story addition is behind the clapboard part. This addition is on three sides of the house, the south, east and west.
10. Significance: The William J. Dronenburg House is an important reminder of Clarksburg's 19th century heritage as a center of industry and commerce for northern Montgomery County. It is Clarksburg's only brick building.
- William J. Dronenburg came to Clarksburg from northern Maryland sometime between 1840 and 1850, and was able to purchase a large lot near the tanyards and across the street from the hotel. After the Civil War, he built a house on the site, the core of the present structure.
- The Dronenburg family owned this property until 1937. Since then the house and property have had a number of owners and alterations.
11. Researcher and date researched: Kevin J. Parker-8/79 Margaret Coleman Arch. Description
12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock
13. Date Compiled: 10/79
14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage: 1.667 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 13/10-12
Clarksburg H.D.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC W. J. Dronenburg House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 23401 Frederick Road

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Thomas & Sally Conley

Telephone #: 656-0100

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 210

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20734

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 3420

Folio #: 176

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M. 13-10-12

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay by three bay, two-and-a-half story house faces west. The original house was three bay by one bay, two-and-a-half story, brick laid in Flemish bond with fieldstone foundation, facing west. The front (west) facade has a panelled transom. A one-over-one, double-hung window flanks the door on either side. The trim is plain. The cellar beneath has a dirt floor and huge heavy beams to support the brick house. An earlier massive stone chimney can be seen although it is partially covered with cement blocks.

A three bay by four bay section is behind the brick part; it is clapboard on fieldstone foundation with casement windows.

A gable roof covers both sections with corrugated metal. There is one interior brick chimney, and louvered shutters at the upper level. Windows are double-hung; some of the original glass remains.

A cement block and frame one story addition is behind the clapboard part. This addition is on three sides of the house, the south, east and west. Vertical wood siding is on the addition and these three facades of the original house sections. From the floor level to the ground is brick in running bond. The addition has a mansard roof with red asbestos shingles.

The north side shows the original brick and the clapboard sections of this house.

Brick pavers formed a walkway to the south of the house, and can still be seen beneath the shallow crushed stone.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES late 1860's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The town of Clarksburg emerged in the 19th century as a center of industry and commerce for northern Montgomery County. The William J. Dronenburg house is an important reminder of Clarksburg's industrial heyday.

Will Dronenburg came to Clarksburg from northern Maryland sometime between 1840 and 1850,¹ and was listed in the 1850 census as a blacksmith. Business seems to have prospered for him, for in 1853 he was able to purchase a large lot² in town near the tanyards and across the street from the hotel. He soon built a house on the site, providing the core of the present structure.

Dronenburg arrived in Clarksburg at an opportune moment. Beginning in the late 1830's and continuing for over a decade, numerous equity cases involved many of Clarksburg's leading property owners and a sizable amount of real estate. It was out of the auctions resulting from these cases that Will Dronenburg was able to purchase the land on which he built his blacksmith business.

It appears from the assessment records that after the Civil War Dronenburg built his brick house, the only one in Clarksburg.³ The Dronenburg family owned this property until 1937, when Clifton and Catherine Dronenburg's house was repossessed by the Home Owner's Loan Corporation.⁴ Since that time the house and property have had a number of owners and alterations. Its present owner is holding the house for investment purposes.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Clarence Day, grandson of W. J. Dronenburg, interview, summer 1979.
2. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., JGH 2/77 (February 4, 1853).
3. Montgomery County Assessment Records, for 1864-69 and 1869-76 show a jump in the Dronenburg assessment from \$500 to \$800.
4. Land Records, op. cit., 706/294 (July 21, 1938).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M. 13-10-12

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Montgomery County Land Assessment, and Equity Records.

Martenet & Bond Map (1865).

Hopkins Atlas (1879).

Interview with Clarence Day, grandson of W.J. Dronenburg, summer 1979.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.667 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kevin J. Parker

Margaret M. Coleman, Arch. Desc. 1979

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

August 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

NOTICES.

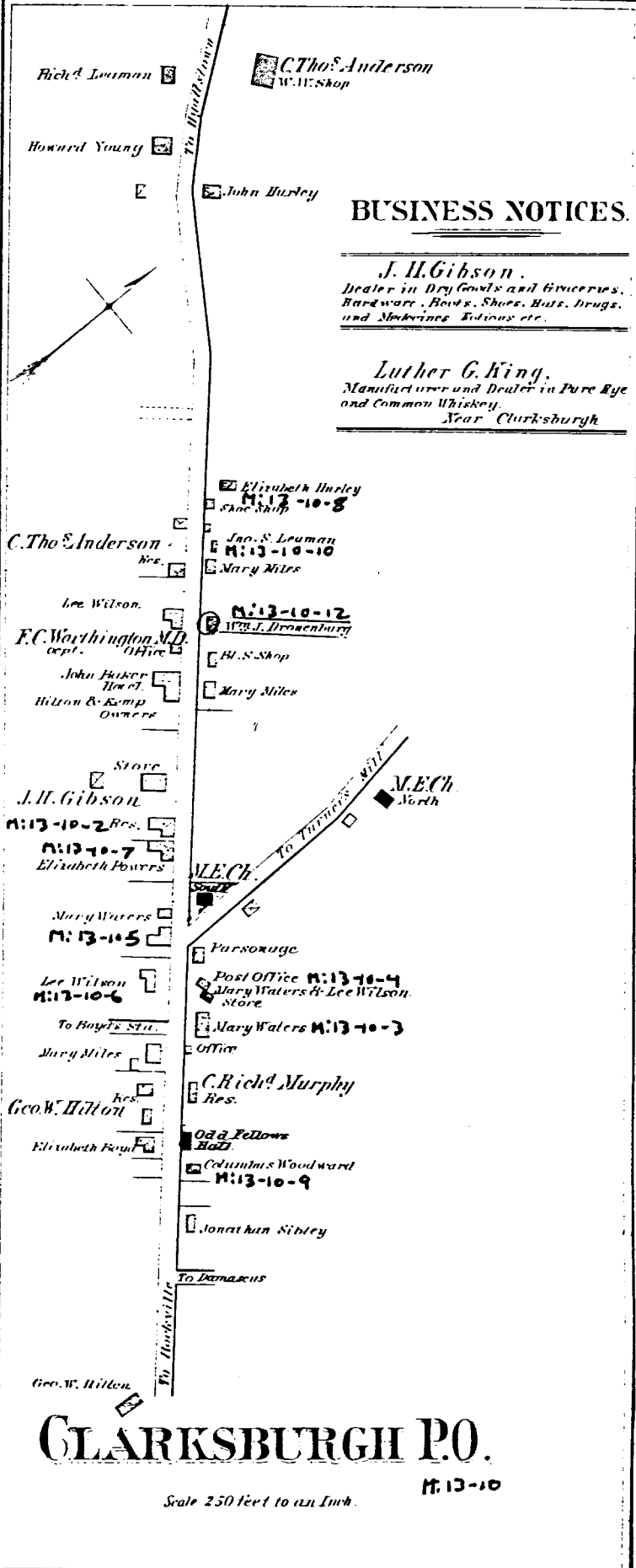
du
is Bu
per and dealer in

Darby.
Her
Buckwheat Flour,
Kinds & Lumber.

CO W.
and Fancy Goods, Dry
Wine, Books, Shoes, etc.

TOWN P.O.

et to an Inch.



M: 13-10-12
W. J. Dronenburg House

660

M: 13-10
↓

659

BM

658

Clarksburg

M: 13-10-8
M: 13-10-10
M: 13-10-12

M: 13-10-2
M: 13-10-7
M: 13-10-5
M: 13-10-6

M: 13-10-4
M: 13-10-3

M: 13-10-9

M: 13-10-11

M: 13-52

Clarksburg
Sch

GERMANTOWN
QUAD, 1953